

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, US, GV

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT NIXON TO PRESIDENT TOURE

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NIXON TO HIS EXCELLENCY, AHMED SEKOU TOURE, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA, IN RESPONSE TO LATTER'S MAY 3 LETTER.

2. QUOTE THE WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, JUNE 5, 1974. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: YOUR LETTER OF MAY 3 DESCRIBING GUINEA'S SEVERE FOOD SHORTAGE HAS BEEN OF GREAT CONCERN TO ME. MR. RUSH INFORMED ME OF THE MEETING HE HELD WITH YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER TO DISCUSS WHAT FURTHER RESPONSE THE UNITED STATES MIGHT MAKE TO THIS PROBLEM. I AM SORRY THAT THE PRESSURES ON MY SCHEDULE DID NOT PERMIT A PERSONAL VISIT WITH MINISTER CISSOKO.

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BY NOW YOU KNOW THAT IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE FOR US TO IN-

CREASE PL-480 COMMODITY AMOUNTS FOR GUINEA TO A LEVEL
GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH OUR 1973 PROGRAM. THIS INCREASE
WAS APPROVED IN THE FACE OF GROWING WORLD DEMAND FOR OUR
SHRINKING GRAIN RESERVES. MANY OF OUR PL-480 PROGRAMS HAVE
OF NECESSITY BEEN GREATLY REDUCED THIS YEAR, OTHERS HAVE
BEEN CANCELLED ENTIRELY. NONETHELESS, I HAVE BEEN PAR-
TICULARLY DISTRESSED BY THE FOOD SHORTAGE PROBLEM IN THE
WEST AFRICAN REGION, AND HAVE DIRECTED THAT ALL POSSIBLE
UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE BE EXTENDED TO ITS VICTIMS.
THE UNITED STATES VALUES ITS TIES OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING
WITH GUINEA. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT WE HAVE ENDEAVORED
TO BE RESPONSIVE TO YOUR REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN MEETING
GUINEA'S INCREASED FOOD REQUIREMENTS. AND LET US HOPE
THAT SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE CIRCUMSTANCES WILL PERMIT US
TO DISCUSS TOGETHER WORLD PROBLEMS AND RELATIONS BETWEEN
GUINEA AND THE UNITED STATES.

PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. PRESIDENT, MY BEST WISHES FOR YOU AND
THE PEOPLE OF GUINEA. SINCERELY, RICHARD NIXON. UNQUOTE.

3. ORIGINAL LETTER BEING POUCHED FOR EMBASSY TRANSMITTAL
TO PRESIDENT TOURE. THIS MESSAGE MAY BE DECONTROLLED
UPON RECEIPT. KISSINGER

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